

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful consideration of this application. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13, 15, 16, 18-23, and 25 are currently pending. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended into independent form. Claim 4 has been cancelled, without prejudice. Based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant appreciates the Office Action's allowance of claims 1-3, 11-13, 16, 18-23, and 25. The Applicant further appreciates the Office Action's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5-9 and 15. Claims 5 and 6 have been rewritten in independent form, and claim 4 has been cancelled, without prejudice. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,672,581 to Lee et al. ("Lee"). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Nevertheless, to facilitate prosecution of this application, claim 4 has been cancelled, without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

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Appl. No.: 10/510,442

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

/Steven J. Schwarz/

Date: October 13, 2008

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